Performance parameters of IA

2375. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the performance parameters of Indian Airlines in terms of scat load factor, market share in percentage, the total number of passengers in the month of October, 2001 as compared to August, 2001; and

(b) how it stands as compared to Air Sahara and Jet Airlines?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) and (b) Domestic passengers carried, percentage share and scat factor of the scheduled airlines is as follows:—

Domestic Passengers Carried by Scheduled Airlines, percentage share & seat factor of each carrier	Indian Airlines	let Airways	Sahara Airlines	Total
August, 2001				
Passengers carried	463860	49074(1	36329	990935
Share (%)	46.8	49.5	3.7	100.0
Seat Factor (%)	55.9	62.1	33.22	—
October, 2001				
Passengers carried	441542	396IU9	48110	885761
Share (%)	49.8	44.7	5.5	100.0
Seat Factor (%)	54.6	53.0	39 11	—

New airport at Ajmer, Rajasthan

2376. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rajasthan Government has demanded that an airport be constructed at Ajmer. a pilgrim centre in Rajasthan;

(b) whether a demand has also been made to provide flights for all parts of the country from there; and

(c) if so, what is Government's response to these demands?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) to (c) A request has been received from the State Government of Rajasthan for construction of an airport at Ajmcr. The Airports Authority of India has identified a possible site for construction of a new airport at Ajmcr. The proposal is at a preliminary stage at present.

New airport in Uttarkashi

2377. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan to construct a new airport in or around Uttarkashi;

(b) whether any helipad airport is functioning in Uttarkashi;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) by when Government arc going to construct a new airport in Uttarkashi?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) to (d) There is a small airstrip belonging to the State Government at Chinyali Saur in Uttarkashi Block. The Airports Authority of India (AAI) has no plans at present to construct a new airport in or around Uttarkashi.

Upgradation of fleet operation

2378. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any commendable steps to upgrade fleet operation of national airlines in comparison with foreign airlines during the last three years in keeping with the competition:

(b) if so, the details thereof: and